

## Reminder: \*Steel shot is required on all GPA's and WPA's Aurora County

Lynn Geuke



### Fishing report:

**Wilmarth Mitchell:** NO VEHICLES OFF ROAD.

**Reminder:** The minimum length limit on Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass in the lake is 15"  
THE ENTIRE LAKE OF WILMARTH IS A NO WAKE ZONE!

**Nelson Lake:** No report. NO VEHICLES DRIVING OFF ROADS.



**Hunting report:** Waterfowl hunting is going well so far this year. White Lake and Platte Lake seem to be holding the most ducks in the area. Hunters have done well thus far. Fish Lake has held some ducks. There are not many geese in the area at this time. Hunting pressure is more concentrated now due to lack of water. The pheasant outlook looks good for the upcoming season and birds appear to be healthy. Deer are doing well.

## Beadle County

Chris Kuntz



**Fishing Report:** Fishing has been slow across the county.

**James River:** A few walleye have been caught near the dams.

**Lake Byron:** Slow.

**Mud Lake:** Slow.

**Cavour Lake:** Slow.

**Ravine:** Slow.



**Hunting Report:** Waterfowl hunting had been slow. Pheasant hunters this last weekend had moderate success. Most of the corn is still in.

## Bon Homme County

Todd Crownover



### Fishing Report

**Missouri River:** Catfish are biting on worms and stink bait in the shallows, some are good sized. Large and Smallmouth Bass are being caught on artificials. Drum and carp are also biting on worms. Crappies have been spotty but are being caught on minnows. Walleye have been slow.

**Lake Henry:** Bluegill and crappies are biting on worms, leaches and minnows. Small Rapala's are also catching bass and larger crappies.

**Remember bass size is 15 inches and the lake is slow-no wake.**

**Clear Lake:** No report.

**Merkel Lake (Singleton GPA):** No report.

**Heritage GPA:** Small bluegill and bass are being caught on worms.



**Hunting Report:** No activity.

# Brookings County

Jeff Grendler



## Fishing Reports:

**Lake Sinai:** Fishing has been slow. A few walleyes have been picked up but anglers are really having to work for these. A few smallmouth bass have been hitting.

**West Lake Oakwood:** No activity.

**East Oakwood:** No Activity.

**Oak Lake:** No activity.

**Brush Lake:** Fishing has been slow with only a few small perch taken.

**Lake Poinsett:** A few walleyes and occasional perch. Fishing has been slow.

**East 81 ponds:** A few walleyes have been caught from shore, 14-16 inches. Anglers have been using minnows and casting small crankbaits. Weedline has died down making casting easier.

**Lake Hendricks:** Slow, little to no activity.

**Lake Goldsmith:** Slow little to no activity.

**Lake Campbell:** No Activity.

**Dakota Nature Park:** Largemouth bass are starting to bite and a few nice fish have been caught. Small crankbaits and soft plastic rigged texas or wacky style. Soft plastics green or brown in color seems to be the best.



**Hunting Report:** Good number of ducks in the area. Water levels are decent with most wetlands public and private having enough to set decoys. Lots of teal with a few local mallards. Canada geese are starting to return. Hunters scouting silage fields have had success with geese and ducks. The northwest and southwest parts of Brookings County have been the best. There are a few areas in the northeast that have some good numbers of both geese and ducks. Hunters are reminded that when hunting on the water that most of these waters are overflowing over private property and that the land underneath is in private ownership. Hunters need to stay on the water when hunting. Since the land under the water is privately owned hunters walking on or boats touching the bottom is considered trespass. Very few of these lakes have shorelines that are open to public access. Most islands are owned privately on meandered waters.

# Clay County

Tony Stokely



## Fishing Report:

**Missouri River:** a few anglers have been getting some walleye and paddlefish.

**Vermillion River:** Some fishing success along Vermillion River for catfish.

**Reminder:** There must be a wearable lifejacket of appropriate size for everybody on board your boat.



**Hunting Report:** Waterfowl hunters getting some activity on Missouri River. Sandbar locations for blinds are limited due to water releases. Some success for pheasants on public land last weekend. Pheasant numbers are up from last year in area. Archery hunters will start seeing more deer with harvest in full swing, corn is starting to be harvested.

# Davison County

Andy Petersen



## Fishing Report:

**Remember Firesteel Creek is off limits to the taking of any baitfish.**

**Lake Mitchell:** No report.

**James River:** No report.



**Hunting Report:** Regular Pheasant season starts October 18<sup>th</sup> and runs until January 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Pheasant:** Pheasant hunters found some success during the resident only season this past weekend. Finding birds remains difficult, but there are certainly more birds this year than last year. There is still a lot of corn unharvested, which is holding a lot of birds.

**Waterfowl:** Hunters are having good success. Duck numbers appear to be still good in the area.

## Hanson County

Andy Petersen/Matt Talbert



**Fishing Report:** Fishing has been rather slow, a few northerns and panfish have been caught.

**Lake Hanson:**

**Ethan Dam:**

**James River:**



**Hunting Report:** Regular Pheasant season starts October 18<sup>th</sup> and runs until January 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Pheasant:** Pheasant hunters found some success during the resident only season this past weekend. Finding birds remains difficult, but there are certainly more birds this year than last year. There is still a lot of corn unharvested, which is holding a lot of birds.

**Waterfowl:** Hunters are having good success. Duck numbers appear to be still good in the area.

## Hutchinson County

Brian Humphrey



**Fishing:** No fishing activity observed.



**Hunting:** Dove hunting has slowed down due to cooler temps. Heard some reports of some youth hunters finding some pheasants this past weekend. I have observed a fair number of young rooster pheasants with very little color. Hunters planning to hunt the resident pheasant season next weekend will need to take a little more time to ID the birds before they shoot. No archery deer hunting activity observed. There have been a few geese being shot in the county.

## Jerauld County

Lynn Geuke



**Fishing Report:** No report.



**Hunting Report:** Duck hunting has been slow due to lack of water. Goose hunting has not been good. Pheasant outlook looks good as birds in the area are healthy. There is some good cover for pheasants on the east side of the county.

## Kingsbury County

Shane Van Bockern



**Fishing Reports:**

**Lake Thompson:** Fair for walleye, crappie, pike, white bass, and some perch.

**West 81:** Slow success on walleye and white bass.

**Lake Whitewood:** Slow.

**Lake Henry:** Slow to fair for pike and walleye.

**Lake Albert:** Slow for pike and walleye.

**Spirit Lake:** Slow.

**Lake Preston:** No activity.



**Hunting Report:** Waterfowl hunting has been fair-good. Good numbers of local ducks are still in the county. Canada goose numbers seem to be lower the county than previous years. Resident pheasant hunters had fair success last weekend. Large amounts of standing corn and mild weather made locating birds difficult. Hunting should improve when the corn harvest gets underway.

## Lake County

Cody Symens



### **Fishing Report:**

**Lake Madison:** Anglers catching a few smaller-sized perch and walleye from boats and docks around the lake.

**Lake Herman:** Slow.

**Brant Lake:** Anglers catching 3-5" bass and an occasional northern pike.

**Long Lake:** No pressure.

**Lake Henry:** A few reports of boaters having success catching walleye in the 15-18" range.

**Lake George:** Slow.



**Hunting Report:** Waterfowl hunters had excellent success across the whole county harvesting teal, wood ducks, northern shovelers, and a few mallards. There were very few geese shot last weekend but there is ample opportunity for Canada geese but scouting and decoying is the key to success.

## Lincoln County

Nate Stukel



### **Fishing Report:**

**Big Sioux:** A few more Walleye have been caught recently.

**Hudson:** Little fishing activity.

**Lake Alvin:** Little fishing activity.

**Lake Lakota:** Little fishing activity.



### **Hunting Report:**

**Waterfowl:** A few birds can be located in the county if an individual is willing to do some scouting.

**Pheasants:** More birds have been observed in the county this year than in the previous two years. Hunters should be able to find a Pheasant or two if they are willing to do some walking this weekend.

## McCook County

Matt Talbert



### **Fishing Report:**

**Lake Vermillion:** Shore anglers have had some luck on Catfish. Not much water is running over the spillway reducing the likelihood of catching anything in that area. Boat anglers have been picking up a few walleye here and there early and late in the day.

**Island Lake:** Shore and Boat anglers will have some luck on pike and smallmouth bass.

**Lehrman Slough:** No fishing activity seen.



### **Hunting Report:**

**Waterfowl-** Plenty of ducks in the area.

## Miner County

Evan Meyer



**Fishing Report:** No activity.



**Hunting Report:** Farmers are finishing up on the bean harvest and with no rain in sight will be full swing with corn harvest in a short time. Bird numbers appear to be fair. More corn that is out will only improve the pheasant hunting. Some larger ducks have been seen moving south with fair number of geese in the area. Deer seem to be slow on the move. Same as with the birds, deer will be moving more with more corn out and colder temperatures to come. REMINDER for the pheasant season of the 660 feet rule for road hunting small game. Please be considerate to those areas!

## Minnehaha County

Jared Hill



**Fishing Report:**

**Beaver Lake:** A few walleye, small perch and crappie.

**Scott Slough:** Bullheads fair to good. A few small perch and walleye.

**Island Lake:** A few pike, perch, and walleye.

**Loss Lake:** Bullheads fair and a few walleye.

**Lost Lake:** No reports.

**Twin Lakes:** Walleyes fair to good. **(REMEMBER: 28 inch minimum on Walleyes.)**

**Family Park:** A few trout, bluegill, and crappie.

**Wall Lake:** A few walleye, blue gill, and crappie.

**Clear Lake:** No reports.



**Hunting Report:** Goose hunters who have spent time scouting are having success. Try and pattern the birds to maximize your opportunity. Duck hunter have been having fair to good success.

## Moody County

Chad Williams



**Fishing Report:** Anglers are still catching a few walleyes below the Flandreau Dam using jig head and minnow. Catfish have been biting using liver, stink bait, crawlers, and raw shrimp or leopard frogs.



**Hunting Report:** There are fewer and fewer doves in the area with the cooler temps. The first two weekends of duck opener there were lots of hunters on the public land north of Colman. There are still plenty of ducks around, but there more dispersed and spread out. Farmers are cutting silage in the area, so more opportunity for field hunting ducks and geese.

Pheasant opener this weekend, there is still quite a bit of corn in the fields with farmers starting to work around the clock. With the amount of corn in, hunters will find best luck late in the afternoon hunting grass / wetlands near standing cornfields.

## Sanborn County

Evan Meyer



**Fishing Report:** Fishing activity has been minimal in the county.



**Hunting Report:** Farmers are finishing up on the bean harvest and with no rain in sight will be full swing with corn harvest in a short time. Bird numbers appear to be fair. More corn that is out will only improve the pheasant hunting. Some larger ducks have been seen moving south with fair number of geese in the area. Deer seem to be slow on the move. Same as with the birds, deer will be moving more with more corn out and colder temperatures to come. REMINDER for the pheasant season of the 660 feet rule for road hunting small game. Please be considerate to those areas!

## Turner County

Brian Humphrey



**Fishing Report:** Fishing forecast for Swan Lake looks good for anglers who are seeking to catch some nice Walleyes.



**Hunting:** Duck and goose hunters have had some success at Mud Lake GPA shooting some ducks and geese. No signs of any archery hunters yet.

## Union County

Tony Stokely / Nate Stukel



**Fishing Report:** Little fishing activity.

**Missouri River:** Few anglers finding paddlefish, many in the slot.

**Big Sioux River:** Low activity.

**McCook Lake:** Little to no activity.

**Reminder:** There must be a wearable lifejacket of appropriate size for everybody on board your boat.



**Hunting Report:** Waterfowl hunters getting some activity on Missouri River. Sandbar locations for blinds are limited due to water releases. Some success for pheasants on public land last weekend. Pheasant numbers are up from last year in area. Archery hunters will start seeing more deer with harvest in full swing, corn is starting to be harvested.

## Yankton County

Dan Altman



**Fishing Report:**

**Marindahl:** Fishing pressure and catch rates are low.

**Lewis and Clark:** Fishing pressure and catch rates have increased over the past two weeks. Anglers fishing from boats are having the most success catching walleye. Some walleye are also being picked up around Lewis and Clark Marina causeway.

**James River:** No report.

**Lake Yankton:** **DEAD!!!** The first stage of the Lake Yankton renovation project is complete. Stocking efforts are scheduled for this fall

**Missouri River:** Paddlefish snagging season is open to limited license holders. Snaggers are having decent success but many of the fish caught are in the protected slot range (35" – 45").



**Hunting Report:** The Unit 1 Canada goose season and duck seasons are currently open in Yankton County. Duck hunters report good numbers of small ducks have moved into the area. Hunters focused on the northern part of Yankton County are having the best success. Remember, the limit for Canada geese in Unit 1 is now 8 geese instead of 15 geese.

Archery and Youth deer seasons are currently open. Deer numbers have increased in Yankton County compared to last year. Deer numbers are below normal in the central/north part of the county and are high in other isolated areas.